

Serial No.: 09/876,884

## **THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims in the present application.

### **What is claimed is:**

**1. (currently amended)** An order receiving apparatus that receives an order of commodity transaction from a commodity ordering apparatus through a network, comprising:

a first storage means adapted to store commodity information that includes at least a commodity name and a selling price of a commodity as an object of transaction;

a second storage means adapted to store information specifying combinations of two or more different commodities, and adapted to store specific parameters concerning economic return, which are applied respectively to said combinations, relating said information and said specific parameters, respectively;

a third storage means adapted to store a general-purpose parameter concerning economic return, which is applied to commodities other than said combinations of commodities;

and a means adapted to perform steps of:

receiving a request to display information on commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

referring to the first storage means, to output said commodity information to said commodity ordering apparatus; and

referring to the second and third storage means, to output information on said combinations of commodities and said specific parameters applied respectively to said combinations, and information on said general-purpose parameter, to said commodity ordering apparatus; and

Serial No.: 09/876,884

a point generating means that performs steps of:  
receiving an order request including information to specify ordered commodities,  
from said commodity ordering apparatus;  
judging if a group of the ordered commodities specified includes commodities  
related to a combination recorded in the second storage means;  
calculating first points when it is judged that the commodities related to the  
combination are included, said first points being decided based on a specific parameter applied to  
said combination, or based on the specific parameter applied to said combination and on selling  
prices of the commodities related to said combination;  
calculating second points with respect to commodities other than the commodities  
related to said combination, based on the general-purpose parameter, or based on the general-  
purpose parameter and selling prices of the commodities in question; and  
outputting total points of the first points and the second points, to said ordering  
apparatus.

**2. (canceled)**

**3. (currently amended)** The order receiving apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

a means adapted to receive identification information on a user of said ordering apparatus; and

a fourth storage means adapted to store said total points, relating said total points to said identification information received.

Serial No.: 09/876,884

4. (currently amended) The order receiving apparatus according to claim 21, wherein:

said general-purpose parameter is a value defining a rate to a selling price of a commodity; and

said second points are decided by multiplying the selling prices of the commodities in question by said rate.

5. (currently amended) The order receiving apparatus according to claim 21, wherein:

said specific parameters is a value defining a rate to the selling prices of the commodities related to the combination concerned; and

said first points are decided by multiplying the selling prices of the commodities related to the combination by said rate.

6. (currently amended) The order receiving apparatus according to claim 21, wherein:

said specific parameter decides the number of said first points.

7. (currently amended) An order receiving apparatus that receives an order of commodity transaction from a commodity ordering apparatus through a network, comprising:

a first storage means adapted to store commodity information that includes at least a commodity name and a selling price of a commodity as an object of transaction;

a second storage means adapted to store information specifying combinations of two or more different commodities, specific parameters concerning economic return, which are applied respectively to said combinations, and periods applied respectively to said combinations, relating said information, said specific parameters, and said periods respectively;

Serial No.: 09/876,884

a third storage means adapted to store a general-purpose parameter concerning economic return, which is applied to commodities other than said combinations of commodities; and

a means adapted to perform steps of:

receiving a request to display information on commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

referring to the first storage means, to output said commodity information to said commodity ordering apparatus; and

referring to the second and third storage means, to output information on said combinations of commodities, said specific parameters and periods applied respectively to said combinations, and information on said general-purpose parameter, to said commodity ordering apparatus; and

a point generating means, said point generating means performing steps of:

receiving an order request including user identification and information for specifying ordered commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

judging it commodities related to a combination stored in the second storage means are included in a group of the ordered commodities specified, or in the group of the ordered commodities specified and commodities that are specified by the information stored in the fourth storage means and have dates included in the periods stored in the second storage means;

calculating first points when it is judged that the commodities related to the combination are included, said first points being decided based on a specific parameter applied to said combination, or based on the specific parameter applied to said combination and on selling prices of the commodities related to said combination;

Serial No.: 09/876,884

calculating second points with respect to commodities other than the commodities related to said combination, based on the general-purpose parameter, or based on the general-purpose parameter and selling prices of the commodities in question; and  
outputting total points of the first points and the second points, to said ordering apparatus.

8. (currently amended) The order receiving apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:

~~a point generating means; and~~

a fourth storage means adapted to store user identification information on a user of a commodity ordering apparatus related to the order received, information for specifying commodities, and a date, relating said user information, said information for specifying commodities and said date; wherein:

~~\_\_\_\_\_ said point generating means performs steps of:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ receiving an order request including user identification and information for specifying ordered commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ judging if commodities related to a combination stored in the second storage means are included in a group of the ordered commodities specified, or in the group of the ordered commodities specified and commodities that are specified by the information stored in the fourth storage means and have dates included in the periods stored in the second storage means;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ calculating first points when it is judged that the commodities related to the combination are included, said first points being decided based on a specific parameter applied to said combination, or based on the specific parameter applied to said combination and on selling prices of the commodities related to said combination;~~

Serial No.: 09/876,884

~~\_\_\_\_\_ calculating second points with respect to commodities other than the commodities related to said combination, based on the general purpose parameter, or based on the general purpose parameter and selling prices of the commodities in question; and~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_ outputting total points of the first points and the second points, to said ordering apparatus.~~

**9. (currently amended)** An order receiving method, in which an order of commodity transaction is received from a commodity ordering apparatus through a network, comprising steps of:

storing commodity information that includes at least a commodity name and a selling price of a commodity as an object of transaction;

storing information specifying combinations of two or more different commodities, and specific parameters concerning economic return, which are applied respectively to said combinations, relating said information and said specific parameters, respectively;

storing a general-purpose parameter concerning economic return, which is applied to commodities other than said combinations of commodities;

receiving a request to display information on commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

displaying said commodity information to said commodity ordering apparatus; and

displaying information on said combinations of commodities and said specific parameters applied respectively to said combinations, and information on said general-purpose parameter, onto said commodity ordering apparatus;

receiving an order request including information to specify ordered commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

Serial No.: 09/876,884

judging if a group of the ordered commodities specified includes commodities related to a combination recorded in the second storage means;

calculating first points when it is judged that the commodities related to the combination are included, said first points being decided based on a specific parameter applied to said combination, or based on the specific parameter applied to said combination and on selling prices of the commodities related to said combination;

calculating second points with respect to commodities other than the commodities related to said combination, based on the general-purpose parameter, or based on the general-purpose parameter and selling prices of the commodities in question; and

outputting total points of the first points and the second points, to said ordering apparatus.

**10. (currently amended)** An order receiving method, in which an order of commodity transaction is received from a commodity ordering apparatus through a network, comprising steps of:

storing commodity information that includes at least a commodity name and a selling price of a commodity as an object of transaction;

storing information specifying combinations of two or more different commodities, specific parameters applied respectively to said combinations, and periods applied respectively to said combinations, relating said information, said specific parameters, and said periods respectively; storing a general-purpose parameter applied to commodities other than said combinations of commodities; and

receiving a request to display information on commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus; displaying said commodity information to said commodity ordering

Serial No.: 09/876,884

apparatus; and displaying information on said combinations of commodities, said specific parameters and periods applied respectively to said combinations, and information on said general-purpose parameter onto said commodity ordering apparatus;

receiving an order request including information to specify ordered commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

judging if a group of the ordered commodities specified includes commodities related to a combination recorded in the second storage means;

calculating first points when it is judged that the commodities related to the combination are included, said first points being decided based on a specific parameter applied to said combination, or based on the specific parameter applied to said combination and on selling prices of the commodities related to said combination;

calculating second points with respect to commodities other than the commodities related to said combination, based on the general-purpose parameter, or based on the general-purpose parameter and selling prices of the commodities in question; and

outputting total points of the first points and the second points, to said ordering apparatus.

11. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium containing a set of instructions for a general purpose computer, the set of instructions for causing a computer to execute an order receiving processing, in which an order of commodity transaction is received from a commodity ordering apparatus connected through a network, which causes the computer to execute processes of:

storing commodity information that includes at least a commodity name and a selling price of a commodity as an object of transaction;



Serial No.: 09/876,884

storing information specifying combinations of two or more different commodities, and specific parameters concerning economic return, which are applied respectively to said combinations, relating said information and said specific parameters, respectively;

storing a general-purpose parameter concerning economic return, which is applied to commodities other than said combinations of commodities;

receiving a request to display information on commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

outputting said commodity information to said commodity ordering apparatus; and  
outputting information on said combinations of commodities and said specific parameters applied respectively to said combinations, and information on said general-purpose parameter, onto said commodity ordering apparatus;

receiving an order request including information to specify ordered commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

judging if a group of the ordered commodities specified includes commodities related to a combination recorded in the second storage means;

calculating first points when it is judged that the commodities related to the combination are included, said first points being decided based on a specific parameter applied to said combination, or based on the specific parameter applied to said combination and on selling prices of the commodities related to said combination;

calculating second points with respect to commodities other than the commodities related to said combination, based on the general-purpose parameter, or based on the general-purpose parameter and selling prices of the commodities in question; and

outputting total points of the first points and the second points, to said ordering apparatus.

Serial No.: 09/876,884

12. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium containing a set of instructions for a general purpose computer, the set of instructions for causing a computer to execute an order receiving processing, in which an order of commodity transaction is received from a commodity ordering apparatus connected through a network, which causes the computer to execute processes of:

storing commodity information that includes at least a commodity name and a selling price of a commodity as an object of transaction;

storing information specifying combinations of two or more different commodities, specific parameters applied respectively to said combinations, and periods applied respectively to said combinations, relating said information, said specific parameters, and said periods respectively;

storing a general-purpose parameter applied to commodities other than said combinations of commodities;

receiving a request to display information on commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

outputting said commodity information to said commodity ordering apparatus; and

outputting information on said combinations of commodities, said specific parameters and periods applied respectively to said combinations, and information on said general-purpose parameter, to said commodity ordering apparatus;

receiving an order request including information to specify ordered commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

judging if a group of the ordered commodities specified includes commodities related to a combination recorded in the second storage means;

Serial No.: 09/876,884

calculating first points when it is judged that the commodities related to the combination are included, said first points being decided based on a specific parameter applied to said combination, or based on the specific parameter applied to said combination and on selling prices of the commodities related to said combination;

calculating second points with respect to commodities other than the commodities related to said combination, based on the general-purpose parameter, or based on the general-purpose parameter and selling prices of the commodities in question; and

outputting total points of the first points and the second points, to said ordering apparatus.

**13. (original)** A computer readable storing medium that stores the program according to any one of claims 11 and 12.

**14. (currently amended)** A point service method, in which points corresponding to an amount of purchase are given to a customer who has purchased commodities in an online shop, wherein:

when an order is received, a method of calculating points to be given is changed according to a combination of commodities related to the purchase, referring to a file that includes data relating the combination of commodities and information required for calculation of the points; and

a point generating means performs steps of:

receiving an order request including information to specify ordered commodities, from said commodity ordering apparatus;

judging if a group of the ordered commodities specified includes commodities related to a combination recorded in the second storage means;

Serial No.: 09/876,884

calculating first points when it is judged that the commodities related to the combination are included, said first points being decided based on a specific parameter applied to said combination, or based on the specific parameter applied to said combination and on selling prices of the commodities related to said combination;

calculating second points with respect to commodities other than the commodities related to said combination, based on the general-purpose parameter, or based on the general-purpose parameter and selling prices of the commodities in question; and

outputting total points of the first points and the second points, to said ordering apparatus.